



# MINUTES

Utah Department of Health  
Drug Utilization Review Board

**Thursday, February 8, 2018**  
**7:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.**  
**Cannon Health Building**  
**Room 125**

**Board Members Present:**

Jennifer Brinton, M.D.  
Eric Cannon, Pharm.D., FAMCP  
Neal Catalano, Pharm.D.  
Kim Michelson, D.D.S.

Katherine Smith, Pharm.D.  
Keith Tolman, M.D., Board Chair  
Sharon Weinstein, M.D.  
Steve Lore, M.D.

**Board Members Excused:**

Ben Berrett, Pharm.D.  
Aesha Drozdowski, Pharm.D.  
Kumar Shah, M.Sc, P.Eng  
Susan Siegfried, M.D.

**Dept. of Health/Div. of Health Care Financing Staff Present:**

Robyn Seely, Pharm.D., DUR Manager  
Bryan Larson, Pharm.D., P&T Manager  
Andrea Rico, CPhT

Merelynn Berrett, R.N.  
Heather Santacruz, R.N.  
Alyssa Pitts, R.N.

**University of Utah Drug Regimen Review Center Staff Presenter:**

Joanne LaFleur, University of Utah Drug Regimen Review Center (DRRC)  
Joanita Lake, B.Pharm, MSc EBHC (DRRC)  
Elena Martinez, Pharm.D. (DRRC)

**Other Individuals Present:**

Diann Matthews, Merz  
Rashid Kazerooni, Merz  
Jennifer Lauper, Bristol Myers Squibb

Jeff Jussack, Otsuka  
Charissa Anne, Johnson and Johnson

Meeting conducted by: Board Chair

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- 1. Welcome:** Robyn Seely opened the meeting and announced that Dr. Tolman is no longer with the Board, and encouraged Board members to nominate replacements. She also announced that a new Board Chair will be elected at March's meeting
- 2. Review and Approval of January Minutes:** The January minutes must be changed to add Steve Lore's name to the list of attendees. Steve Lore motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Sharon Weinstein seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

3. **Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Meeting Update:** February's topic will be nasal anti-inflammatory steroids.
4. **Review of Intrathecal Baclofen**
  - a. **Review:** Joanita Lake presented a review of intrathecal baclofen, particularly its use in treating spasticity, including Utah Medicaid Fee For Service utilization data.
  - b. **Public Comment:** None
  - c. **Board Discussion:** Robyn Seely explained that Utah Medicaid has policy regarding the use of oral baclofen, but not intrathecal. She mentioned that several recent Hearing requests, all for pediatric patients, prompted this review and discussion. Robyn Seely noted that intrathecal baclofen is administered in-clinic and is charged via procedure code, not national drug code (NDC). Jennifer Brinton and Sharon Weinstein expressed confidence in the prescribers of pediatric intrathecal baclofen prescribers. As the discussion continued, most of the Board members mentioned their trust. Andrea Rico re-emphasized the point that intrathecal baclofen is billed via procedure code. Robyn Seely provided high level information about the hearing process at Utah Medicaid. Eric Cannon stated that the data presented suggest appropriate use in the pediatric population, noting that appropriate use includes both federal Food and Drug Administration-approved indications and indications supported by treatment guidelines. The difference between in-pharmacy NDC billing and in-clinic procedure code billing was discussed. Commercial drug shortages and local sterile compounding was discussed. Robyn Seely briefly described Utah Medicaid's certification process for any pharmacy desiring to perform sterile compounding for Utah Medicaid patients. Steve Lore observed that intrathecal baclofen is not a drug of abuse. Sharon Weinstein clarified that the initial implantation of the pump device is the largest cost; subsequent charges for pump refill and even battery replacement are much less.
  - d. **Motion:** Steve Lore motioned for no prior authorization for patients 18 years and less, Sharon Wienstein seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.
5. **Public Meeting Adjourned:** Robyn Seely closed the meeting.
6. **The next meeting scheduled for** Thursday, March 08, 2018

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Audio recordings of DUR meetings are available online at:  
<https://medicaid.utah.gov/pharmacy/drug-utilization-review-board?p=DUR%20Board%20Audio%20Recordings/>